

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 CAIRO 07039 220955Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05

OMB-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 PRS-01 PA-01

USIA-06 CIEP-01 (ISO) W

----- 038760

R 220941Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3767

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CAIRO 7039

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EINV, EG

SUBJECT: MICHELIN TIRE PROJECT

REF: CAIRO 6221

1. DURING FAREWELL CALL, FRENCH AMBASSADOR DE LEUSSE STATED MICHELIN REPS ARE DUE TO ARRIVE COMING WEEK TO BEGIN CONTRACT NEGOTIATIONS. HE RECALLED THAT UP TO NOW GOE HAS ONLY GIVEN LETTER OF INTENT TO MICHELIN. HE ALSO NOTED THAT, UNLESS EGYPTIANS AGREE THAT CAPITAL FOR MICHELIN PLANTMAY BE BROUGHT IN AT COMMERCIAL RATE AND PROFITS REPATRIATED AT SAME RATE, MICHELIN WILL NOT GO AHEAD.

2. DE LEUSSE OBSERVED THAT FRENCH HAVE BEEN VERY SUCCESSFUL IN SELLING FOODS AND SERVICES TO GOE. THUS FAR, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE BEEN UNABLE WORK OUT ANY JOINT VENTURE. FOR ONE REASON OR ANOTHER PROPOSALS

HAVE ALWAYS COME ACROPPER IN EGYPTIAN BUREAUCRACY. MICHELIN, IF PROJECT PROCEEDS, WILL BE THE FIRST FRENCH JOINT VENTURE. HE HOPES IT MAY HAVE A PUMP PRIMING EFFECT IN BRINGING IN OTHER FRENCH JOINT VENTURES.

EILTS

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PAGE 02 CAIRO 07039 220955Z

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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